

How-to Guide

3 Steps to Optimize Material Flow





Food & beverage intralogistics

Economic fluctuations have less of an effect on total volumes produced in the food and beverage sector than they do in other industries. However, as a result of new and additional varieties and container sizes, shifts are taking place within individual segments.

Other factors such as the transfer of logistical activities from traders to manufacturers can lead to a reorganization of tasks. The result: intralogistics must adapt. In order to structure this exceptional situation, the procedure should take into account the following three factors.



Economic fluctuations have a negligible effect on quantities produced.



New varieties and containers lead to rearrangements within the segments.



The shift of logistical activities from traders to manufacturers require warehouses to adapt.

Recognize the relevant drivers

Why are changes required? It is not possible to change ongoing production and logistical processes at the flick of a switch. Therefore, there are solid reasons for each adaptation. The drivers of change in each case are as specific as the circumstances in each case. Typically, proven processes are reaching their limits, and this can be due to various factors:

#1 Laws and public perception

Stricter guidelines lead to additional documentation obligations.

#2 Cost savings

Insourcing an external logistics solution for quality and/or financial reasons.

#3 Product range

Volume and article variety as well as changed purchase quantities exceed the limits of the current solutions.



#4 Space challenges

Extended production requires automating logistics to cope with space limitations.

#5 Extension

Extending warehouse capacities at an existing location to improve delivery capabilities.



#6 Transport

Decrease in standing and waiting times at the ramp and in the staging zone.

#7 Product quality

Optimize reliability and cold-chain security.

Define goals

What do you want to achieve? Kardex can create concrete goals achievable by investing in logistical processes. It is important here to define the size and scope of the desired effects. Possible goals of an extension, refurbishment, or greenfield construction include:

#1 Raise process quality through automation

Automation enables verification of continuous cold chain maintenance.

#2 Integrated planning

Integrated planning of the process chain of a new logistics center at the existing 24/7 production location.

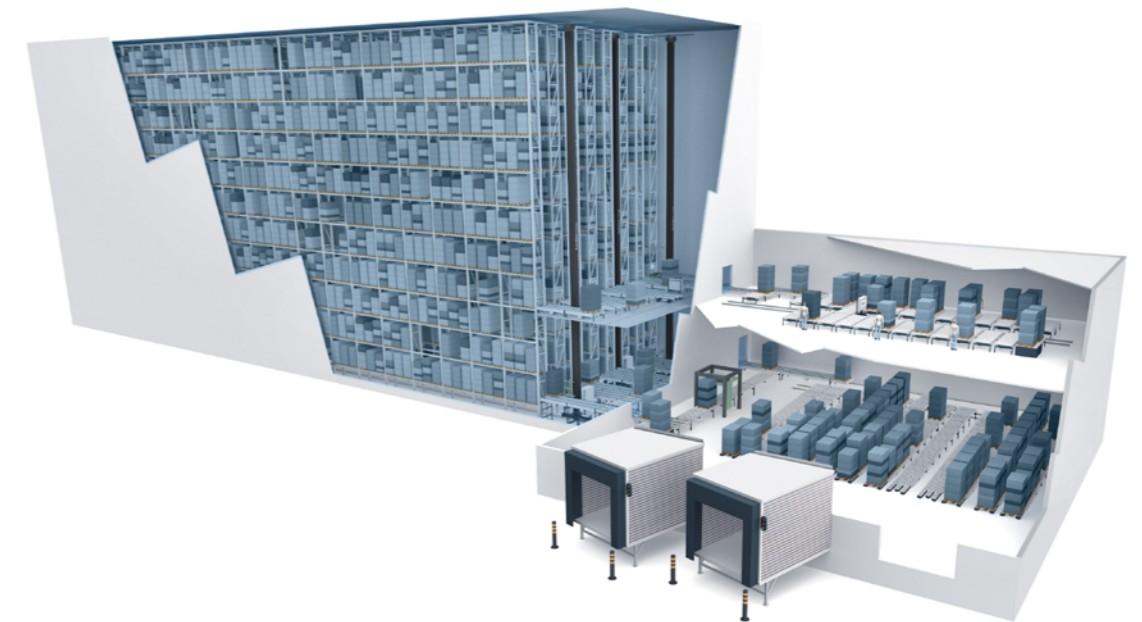


#3 Bottling

Adapting and extending the material flow during ongoing 24/7 operations in the areas of bottling or food manufacturing.

#4 Picking performance

Doubling picking performance when forming mixed containers.



#5 Dispatch

Increasing the number of dispatched trucks per work shift.

#6 Extend the process chain

Extending the process chain (e.g. include handling empties).

#7 Future reliability and fail-safe operations

Complete overhaul of control and electronic components.

Develop the concept

What is important during the implementation? The quality of planning to date becomes evident during the implementation phase. This should take account, not only the actual construction, but also the upstream and downstream processes. The most important points here include:

#1 Ensure delivery capability

This is critical even during the construction phase.

#2 Sustainability

Take into account your sustainability goals.

#3 Future-proof

Future-proof the solution – universal and multi-layered solution principle to respond appropriately to future influences and requirements.

#4 Plant availability

High plant availability through a high-performance service concept.

#5 Subsequent extension stages

Take into account further extension stages and scenarios for performance peaks.